

[3 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Downsizing the Railways

**†1506. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally decided to downsize the railways, by making retrenchments;

(b) if so, the number of railway employees of different categories assessed; to be surplus, category-wise; and

(c) by when, Government have decided to downsize the railways upto appropriate and desired level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for downsizing of the Railways by making retrenchments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to contain staff costs it has been decided to rightsize the Organization by controlling fresh "intake" in various departments and through regular attrition. Railways' rightsizing initiatives are also in accordance with the initiative taken by the Government to rightsize the manpower, as reflected in the Budget Speech of Finance Minister. No time frame has been decided to bring manpower in railways to desired level.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.